A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, October 9. 1708.

WE have gone thro' the Proceedings, Charges and Replies, in the Case of the Dissenting Clergy in *Scotland*; I shall now enter upon three Things, which in Course are requir'd to be spoken to, relating to this Affair, in order to clear up the present Case to the World, and to set it in a true Light; and for Want of which People are left on both sides to commit Mistakes to the Prejudice of both.

1. To examine the Allegation of the *Episcopal* Ministers, as to the Obligation which is now upon them, of taking the Oaths, or praying for the Queen.
2. The Queen's Letter to the Privy-Council of *Scotland*, from whence the Encouragement to their erecting Meeting-Houses in *Scotland* was suppos'd to be deriv'd, and the Encouragement they take from it.
3. The Conduct of the Church and of the Civil Power, which these Ministers separately consider'd.
4. The Behaviour of the Ministers themselves and of their Party, on several Occasions, and the Reasons which have

have at several Times oblig'd the Government to suppress them.

5. The Article or Complaint of Persecution consider'd. 1. As it respects the Civil Government. 2. As it concerns the Church of *Scotland*. And 3. As it concerns the People of *England*, under whatsoever Denomination, whether as *Dissenters*; and of their being charg'd with being of the same Principle from this as a Precedent; or as Church-Men, and of their Injustice in calling it Persecution, and insulting the *Dissenters* upon that Head, while they are guilty of the same thing themselves.

These Heads, if the Author shall be spar'd Life to go thro' them, may perhaps furnish us all with a full History of the Affair, and lead us into truer Notions than yet we have receiv'd, both of the Establishment in *Scotland*, and of the State of Dissenting in *Scotland*; and in all this I shall endeavour to proceed so impartially, as to give no Offence, if possible, that can be avoided to any Party whatsoever — I shall avoid Personal Reflections upon any; even the *Episcopal* Clergy themselves shall have no Insult from me, nor any Reason to complain of Injustice; if in any thing I should slip by Misadvertance, Misinformation, or Want of Information; if I should do them any wrong in Matter of Fact, or in representing Things as they stand, as I have the Honour to be known to some of the best and most judicious of them, on the least Information of such Error from them, I shall do them Justice; and till I refuse them that Justice upon their offering to convince me of some Mistake, I ought not to be reproach'd with it.

First. Then as to the Matter of taking the Oaths to the Government, I suppose, I needed not to say, that it was directed by Act of Parliament ——— But since it has been insisted upon by some in *England*, (I do not say that the *Episcopal* Ministers in *Scotland* insist on it, or claim by Law to be exempted) but in *England*, I know, it has been alledg'd, that the Ministers in *Scotland* are not oblig'd to take it: *for that* the Act of Parliament of the 24th of *June*, and the Proclamation thereupon of the 21st of *July*, 1702, do not expressly mention the Ministers of the Gospel: But that by the Act of Parliament, Persons in publick Trust, *Civil*, *Ecclesiastick or Military are only mention'd*, and in the Proclamation subsequent to and founded upon the said Act, all the several Persons, who are to take the said Oaths, are enumerated, and no Mention made of the Ministers ——— But such People are desir'd to remember, that besides these Acts, and subsequent to them both, *viz*. On the 24th of *September*, 1702, a particular and especial Act of Council was pass'd in *Scotland*, founded upon a former Act of Parliament, *viz*. The *6th Act*, 4th *Sess*. of the first Parliament of *William* and *Mary*, pass'd, *May* 23, 1693, it is expressly Enacted, Thus ——— "Therefore the King and Queen's Majesty, with "Advice and Consent of the Estates of "Parliament, Statute and Ordain, that "the said Oath of Allegiance be sworn, "and the same with the aforesaid Assurance be subscrib'd by all Noblemen, "and their eldest Sons being past twenty "one Years of Age, and by all Persons "in Offices and Places of Publick Trust, "Civil, Ecclesiastick, and Military; To "wit, by all Members of Parliament, and "Electors of Members of Parliament; all "Privy Counsellors and Officers of State, "and of the Crown; All the Lords of "Session, Advocates and Members of the "College of Justice, *&c. And after several other Enumerations in the same Paragraph*, "All Preachers and Ministers of "the Gospel WHATSOMEVER; and by "the same Act immediately after, saying, "That Officers executing their Employment, without taking the Oaths, *&c.* "shall be depriv'd; It also Enacts, that "Ministers provided of Kirks, shall be de-"prived of their Benefices and Stipends; "and Preachers not provided of Kirks "shall be punish'd by Banishment, or o-"therwise as the Council shall think "fit."

Subsequent to, and grounded upon this Act of Parliament, Her present Majesty coming to the Crown, an Act of Council past

paſt in *Scotland*, Septemb. 24. 1705. Appointing the Oath of Allegiance to be ſworn, and it, and the Aſſurance to be Sign'd, Conform to the ſaid Act of Parliament, by all Miniſters and Preachers of the Goſpel, &c. in theſe Words.

The Lords of Her Majeſty's Privy Council, taking into their Conſideration, That in the two Proclamations emitted by their Lordſhips, ſince the Death of King WILLIAM *of ever Glorious Memory, in purſuance of the Act of Parliament 1693. Entitled, Act for taking the Oaths of Allegiance and Aſſurance, there is no ſpecial Proviſion made, as was made in the Proclamation, iſſued out upon the ſame Act. May 30. 1693. before whom, and betwixt, and what Day, Miniſters Preachers of the Goſpel, and the other Perſons mention'd therein, ought to ſwear the ſaid Oath of Allegiance, and ſubſcribe the ſame, with the Aſſurance to Her Majeſty Queen* ANNE, *as is now appointed by the Act, of the laſt Seſſion of the laſt Parliament, Entitled, Act Recognizing Her Majeſty's Royal Power and Authority, &c. And that it is fit that the ſame be ſupply'd: Do therefore by Vertue and Warrant of the ſaid Act, and the Power thereby to them commited, Appoint and Ordain all Miniſters, Preachers of the Goſpel, and all Clerks of Church Judicatories, and Precenters, Maſters and Doctors of Univerſities, Colleges, or Schools, Keepers of Publick Libraries, Chaplains in Families, and Pedagogues, and Governors to Children or Youth, to ſwear the ſaid Oath of Allegiance, and ſubſcribe the ſame with the Aſſurance to Her Majeſty*——And then goes on to preſcribe the Perſons and Time, before whom and when this Oath is to be taken.

As this is a clear Teſtimony, that the Laws of *Scotland* do require, all Miniſters or Preachers of the Goſpel to take the Oath of Allegiance, and inflicts the Penalty, *viz.* Baniſhment upon Preachers unprovided of Kirks; it will appear, that hitherto the Goverment of *Scotland* have not gone to the extent of the Law, ſince the Miniſters of both ſorts, who have preach'd without taking theſe Oaths, and who ſtill refuſe to take them, are not to this hour all of them depriv'd of their Benefices or Stipends, and not one of them, no, not the moſt obſtinate, was ever yet baniſhed for the ſame.

Before I proceed farther in this Part, it is neceſſary to tell Our Readers who are *Engliſhmen*, what this Oath and Aſſurance to be taken in *Scotland* are, and then we ſhall proceed.

The Oath is *Verbatim* the ſame in *England*.

I *A. B.* do ſincerely promiſe and ſwear, that I will be faithful, and bear true Allegiance to her Majeſty Queen *ANNE*. So help me GOD.

The Aſſurance runs thus.

I *A. B.* do in the Sincerity of my Heart affert, acknowledge and declare, that her Majeſty Queen *ANNE* is the only Lawful Undoubted Sovereign of this Realm, as well *de Jure*, that is of Right, QUEEN, as *de Facto*, that is in the Poſſeſſion and Exerciſe of the Government; and therefore I do ſincerely and faithfully promiſe and engage, that I will with Heart and Hand, Life and Goods, maintain and defend her Majeſty's Title and Government againſt the pretended Prince of *Wales*, and his Adherents, and all other Enemies, who either by open or ſecret Attempts ſhall diſturb or diſquiet her Majeſty in the Poſſeſſion and Exerciſe thereof.

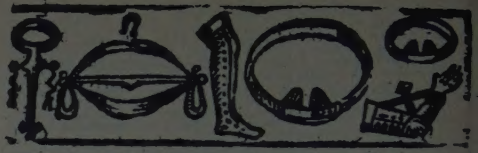
ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE Creditors of King *Charles*, King *James*, and King *William*, are desir'd to bring in their particular Cases, that they may be stated for the Parliament; they are also requested, to see the Petition and to give their Approbation. The Agents for the Army at *London-Derry*, the Cities and Town of *York*, *Berwick*, *Norwich*, *Ipswich*, *Northampton*, *Maidstone*, *Basingstoke*, *Midhurst*, *Hungerford*, *Jersy*, *Plymouth*, *Newport*, and all Others, concern'd in cloathing the Army in 1677, are desired to send in their Claims, to their Place of Meeting, by the *Parliament stairs* in *Old Pallace Yard*, *Westminster*; there is a Note on the Door, where Daily Attendance is given, from 9 of the Clock in the Morning till Night, to settle the particular Cases to be laid before the Parliament. All great Debts to the Army, Transports, Navy, Victualling-Office, Wardrobe, and all other Great Debts, are excused from paying any Charge, to carry it on, until they receive their Money.

These are to give Notice,

THat *MARY KIRLEUS*, the Widow of *JOHN KIRLEUS*, Son of Dr. *THO. KIRLEUS*, a Sworn-Physician, in Ordinary to King *Charles* II. Sells (rightly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pills; experienc'd above 50 Years (by an uncommon Method) to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurf, Scurvies, Leprosies, Running of the Reins, and the most inveterate VENEREAL Disease, with all its attending Symptoms, without Fluxing, Confinement, or destructive Mercurial Preparations. These incomparable Medicines need no Words to express their Virtues; the many miserable Ones that have been happily cured, after given over by others, sufficiently recommend them as the most Sovereign Remedy in the World against all such Malignities. She cures many after Fluxing, and in Compassion to the Distressed, will deal according to the Patient's Ability. The Drink is 3 *s.* the Quart, the Pill 1 *s.* the Box with Directions, and Advice *Gratis*. *NOTE*, The Patient may be effectually cur'd by sending his Grief in Writing.

†‡† *She lives at the Golden-Ball in Hand-Court, over against great Turnstile in Holborn.*



BARTLETT's Inventions for the Cure of Ruptures, which have gain'd so Universal Esteem, are now, yet further Improv'd to so great a Nicety, that one of his Steel Spring Trusses of the largest Size, seldom Exceeds 4 ounces in Weight, and one of the smallest rarely exceeds a quarter of an Ounce, and are so well adapted to the shapes of human Bodies, that they are extraordinary easy even to Infants of a Day Old, and Intirely keep up the Ruptures of what Bigness soever. Also divers Instruments to help the Weak and Crooked. By P. Bartlet at the Golden Ball by the Ship Tavern in Prescot Street in Goodmans Fields, London.

NOTE, He forges and finishes his Trusses himself, by which means he daily Improves his Inventions.

THIS is to give Notice, that I *Thomas Pritchard*, at the *Saracens-Head* in *Little Carter Lane*, near St. *Paul's*, *London*, having a Son who had a very bad Rupture, and applying to Mr. *Bartlett*, at the *Golden Ball* in *Prescot-street* in *Goodman's-Fields*, *London*, He perform'd the Cure in four Days to my great Surprize, and my Son has remain'd well ever since.

This is to give Notice, that I *Richard Baker*, of *Lawrence-Poltneys Lane*, *Cannonstreet*, *London*, having had a Rupture for about fifty Years; at last Lapply'd my self to the late Mr. *Christopher Bartlett*, at the *Golden Ball* by the Tavern in *Prescot-street* in *Goodman's-Fields*; who, by his ingenious Invention of Spring-Trusses and Rupture Spirits, with the Blessing of GOD, made a perfect Cure in about eight Months, and I have been perfectly well ever since, which is about four or five Years.

NOTE, His Son *P. Bartlett* lives at the same Place as above-mention'd, and carries on the same Business, as his Father did; having been by him thoroughly Instructed therein.